(b) whether a request has been made to promote DART game as a sport by telecasting on DD Sports Channel; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to telecast capsules of DART game as a sport on prime time alots on DD Sports Channel?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (d) Yes Sir. Prasar Bharati has intimated that one such request from a foreign company manufacturing DART Boards was received but the same was rejected as the company was indirectly interested in promotion of its products in the Indian market and as per Doordarshan's Code of telecast, such promotion is not allowed.

Surplus Staff in AIR Doordarshan

1521. SHRI KARTAR SINGH DUGGAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Akashvani and Doordarshan are too much overstaffed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps contemplated to remedy it; and

(d) whether the development of the Official electronic media in the immediate futufre will absorb the surplus cadres?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Prasar Bharati Corporation have informed that there is no surplus staff in Doordarshan and All India Radio as compared to the sanctioned strength.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Setting up of New Radio Stations in the Country

1522. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up new radio stations in the country in general and in Tamil Nadu, in particular; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, State-wise details of new Radio Stations being set up /proposed to be set up in the country are given in the Statement *(See below)*.

Statement

State-wise details of New Radio Stations

State	Location of new Radio Stations
Andhra Pradesh	Machrela Kakinada
Arunachal Pradesh	Changlang Khonsa
Chattisgarh	Saraipalli Gujarat Himmatnagar Junagarh
J&K	Bhadarwah Naushera* Kupwara* Rajouri* Khalsi* Diskit* Nyomarap* Drass* Tiesuru* Padam Valley*
Kerala	Manjeri
Madhya Pradesh	Mandla Rajgarh
Maharashtra	Oras Amravati
Manipur	Churachandpur
Mizoram	Champhai
Nagaland	Phek

State	Location of New Radio Stations
Orissa	Soro
	Rairangpur
Tamil Nadu	Dharmanpuri
Tripura	Dharmanagar
	Nutan Bazar
	Longtherai
Uttaranchal	Chamoli
West Bengal	Shantiniketan
	Darjeeling
LEGEND	*Relay Centres

Reduction of Staff in DD/AIR

1523. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan and AIR are required to reduce staff by 75 per cent as recommended by a panel;

(b) if so, the panel's recommendations; and

(c) the steps taken to make the Departments commercially profitable?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati Review Committee in its report submitted on 20th May, 2000, has *inter-alia* recommended that the Engineering function in the organisation is to move towards much smaller transmission organisation, shedding at least 75 per cent of its number in a time bound manner. The Committee has further observed that on any operational criteria, certain functions are grossly over staffed while others need more people and, therefore, a thorough independent review of staffing is recommended and must be entrusted to a competent professional organisation. Prasar Bharati has informed that they have initiated the process for selecting suitable professional consultancy organisation for this purpose.

(c) Prasar Bharati has informed that they have initiated a number of steps, within the parameters of a public broadcaster, to increase its revenue generation. The steps include adopting a proactive and market friendly approach towards